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TITLE: Skills-based Intervention for Youth in High Risk Situations

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ISSUE: Teens at risk for HIV infection need effective, culturally sensitive interventions to decrease their risk of HIV infection.

SETTING: Several locations associated with teen youth in high-risk situations. Locations include the regional Youth Detention Center, Buford Health Center and a Gwinnett County court-ordered drug treatment program. Local middle and high schools are also targeted.

PROJECT: Due to the staggering increase of HIV infection incidence among youth and teenagers, the Be Proud, Be Responsible! curriculum was designed to increase knowledge in the area of HIV transmission and prevention. Attitude towards risky behavior and intent to engage in risky behavior are also addressed. This program places a strong emphasis on audience involvement with the use of role plays and hands-on activities.

RESULTS: During the course of this grant, over 500 youth ages 12 through 20 will have participated in the Be Proud, Be Responsible! Program. In addition, over 1000 middle and high school students will have been exposed to a one-shot HIV prevention program.

LESSONS LEARNED: Relationships between AIDGwinnett and local schools and teen centers have been successful in reaching and exposing a large number of youth to HIV information and resources.

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